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44743 7590 08/08/2008

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EXAMINER	
LIN, KENNY S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

DATE MAILED: 08/08/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,985	06/30/2003	Gregory L. Slaughter	VRTS0163CIP1	1128

TITLE OF INVENTION: RE-MAPPING A LOCATION-INDEPENDENT ADDRESS IN A COMPUTER NETWORK

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$0	\$0	\$1440	11/10/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail** **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

44743 7590 08/08/2008

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE** address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,985	06/30/2003	Gregory L. Slaughter	VRTS0163CIP1	1128

TITLE OF INVENTION: RE-MAPPING A LOCATION-INDEPENDENT ADDRESS IN A COMPUTER NETWORK

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$0	\$0	\$1440	11/10/2008
EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS				
LIN, KENNY S	2152	370-389000				

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
 (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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44743	7590	08/08/2008	EXAMINER			
RAYMOND R. MOSER JR., ESQ. MOSER IP LAW GROUP/SYMANTEC CORPORATION 1030 BROAD STREET 2ND FLOOR SHREWSBURY, NJ 07702				LIN, KENNY S		
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
				2152		
DATE MAILED: 08/08/2008						

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1439 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1439 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/609,985	SLAUGHTER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	KENNY S. LIN	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 3/17/2008.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18 and 20-37 now renumbered as 1-36.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date all 4
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

/Kenny S Lin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2152

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-37 are presented for examination.
2. The IDS submitted on 1/6/05, 1/10/05, 8/22/05, 2/8/08 are considered.
3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Brush on June 10, 2008.

4. The application has been amended as follows:
 1. (Currently Amended) A method for changing a location-independent address in a network of nodes, the method comprising:

a first node in the network sending a first message, wherein the first message is addressed to the location-independent address, wherein a second node hosts an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the first message comprises a request to host an instance of the location-independent address;

the second node receiving the first message; and

the second node sending a response message to the first node, wherein the response message grants permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the location-independent address comprises a role.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
the first node receiving the response message; and
the first node adding an instance of the location-independent address in response to the response message.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2,
wherein said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address enables messages addressed to the location-independent address to be sent to the first node.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2,
wherein the response message indicates that the second node does not give up its instance of the location-independent address;
wherein the first node and the second node each host an instance of the location-independent address after said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
a third node sending a second message after said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the second message is addressed to the location-independent address; and
the first node and the second node both receiving the second message.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
the second node giving up its instance of the location-independent address in response to receiving the first message, wherein the response message indicates that the second node gives up its instance of the location-independent address;
wherein the second node does not host an instance of the location-independent address after said giving up its instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the first node hosts an instance of the location-independent address after said adding an instance of the location-independent address.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

a third node sending a second message after said second node giving up its instance of the location-independent address and first node adding an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the second message is addressed to the location-independent address; and
the first node receiving the second message, but not the second node.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6,

wherein the first message is propagated from the first node to the second node via a plurality of intermediate nodes;

wherein each of the intermediate nodes stores routing information specifying how to route messages addressed to the location-independent address;

wherein the method further comprises each intermediate node changing its stored routing information so that subsequent messages addressed to the location-independent address are routed toward the first node instead of toward the second node.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8,

wherein the response message is propagated from the second node to the first node via the plurality of intermediate nodes.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8,

wherein each intermediate node has a plurality of links by which to receive and send messages;

wherein each intermediate node receives the first message by one of its links;

wherein each intermediate node stores routing information specifying a link over which to forward the first message;

wherein said each intermediate node changing its stored routing information comprises the intermediate node changing its stored routing information to specify that subsequent

messages addressed to the location-independent address be forwarded over the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

each intermediate node storing a message record specifying information regarding the first message in response to receiving the first message, wherein the message record includes information specifying the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11,

wherein the response message is propagated from the second node to the first node via the plurality of intermediate nodes;

wherein the method further comprises each intermediate node:

retrieving the message record that specifies information regarding the first message in response to receiving the response message; and

determining from the message record the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12,

wherein said storing the message record comprises storing the message record in a hash map;

wherein the hash map maps a message ID of the first message to the message record for the first message.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13,

wherein the response message includes information specifying the message ID of the first message;

wherein said retrieving the message record that specifies information regarding the first message in response to receiving the response message comprises looking up the message record using the message ID of the first message.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14,
wherein the response message has a message ID that is the same as the message ID of the first message;
wherein the information specifying the message ID of the first message comprises the message ID of the response message.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1,
wherein the first node executes client application software and network software, wherein said first node sending the first message comprises the network software executing on the first node sending the first message in response to a request received from the client application software executing on the first node;
wherein the second node executes client application software and network software, wherein said second node sending the response message comprises the network software executing on the second node sending the response message in response to a request received from the client application software executing on the second node;
wherein the network software executing on the second node enables the client application software executing on the second node to specify whether to grant permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16,
wherein the client application software executing on the second node invokes an application programming interface (API) of the network software executing on the second node to send the response message;
wherein said client application software invoking the API of the network software includes the client application software passing one or more parameters specifying whether to grant permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16,

wherein the network software executing on the second node also enables the client application software executing on the second node to specify whether the second node is giving up its instance of the location-independent address.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a network;

a plurality of nodes coupled via the network, wherein each node includes a processor and memory;

wherein the plurality of nodes includes a first node operable to send a first message, wherein the first message is addressed to a location-independent address, wherein a second node in the plurality of nodes hosts an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the first message comprises a request to host an instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the second node is operable to receive the first message and send a response message to the first node, wherein the response message grants permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the location independent address comprises a role.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20,

wherein the first node is operable to receive the response message and add an instance of the location-independent address in response to the response message.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21,

wherein said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address enables messages addressed to the location-independent address to be sent to the first node.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21,

wherein the response message indicates that the second node does not give up its instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the first node and the second node each host an instance of the location-independent address after said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23,

wherein the plurality of nodes includes a third node operable to send a second message after said first node adding an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the second message is addressed to the location-independent address;

wherein the first node and the second node both receive the second message.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21,

wherein the second node is operable to give up its instance of the location-independent address in response to receiving the first message, wherein the response message indicates that the second node gives up its instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the second node does not host an instance of the location-independent address after said giving up its instance of the location-independent address;

wherein the first node hosts an instance of the location-independent address after said adding an instance of the location-independent address.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25,

wherein the plurality of nodes includes a third node operable to send a second message after said second node giving up its instance of the location-independent address and first node adding an instance of the location-independent address, wherein the second message is addressed to the location-independent address;

wherein the first node receives the second message, but not the second node.

27. (Original) The system of claim 15,

wherein the first message is propagated from the first node to the second node via a plurality of intermediate nodes;

wherein each of the intermediate nodes stores routing information specifying how to route messages addressed to the location-independent address;

wherein each intermediate node is operable to change its stored routing information so that subsequent messages addressed to the location-independent address are routed toward the first node instead of toward the second node.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27,

wherein the response message is propagated from the second node to the first node via the plurality of intermediate nodes.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27,

wherein each intermediate node has a plurality of links by which to receive and send messages;

wherein each intermediate node receives the first message by one of its links;

wherein each intermediate node stores routing information specifying a link over which to forward the first message;

wherein said each intermediate node changing its stored routing information comprises the intermediate node changing its stored routing information to specify that subsequent messages addressed to the location-independent address be forwarded over the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29,

wherein each intermediate node stores a message record specifying information regarding the first message in response to receiving the first message, wherein the message record includes information specifying the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30,

wherein the response message is propagated from the second node to the first node via the plurality of intermediate nodes;

wherein each intermediate node is operable to:

retrieve the message record that specifies information regarding the first message in response to receiving the response message; and

examine the message record to determine the link by which the intermediate node received the first message.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31,

wherein said storing the message record comprises storing the message record in a hash map;

wherein the hash map maps a message ID of the first message to the message record for the first message.

33. (Original) The system of claim 32,

wherein the response message includes information specifying the message ID of the first message;

wherein said retrieving the message record that specifies information regarding the first message in response to receiving the response message comprises looking up the message record using the message ID of the first message.

34. (Original) The system of claim 33,

wherein the response message has a message ID that is the same as the message ID of the first message;

wherein the information specifying the message ID of the first message comprises the message ID of the response message.

35. (Original) The system of claim 20,

wherein the first node executes client application software and network software, wherein said first node sending the first message comprises the network software executing on the first node sending the first message in response to a request received from the client application software executing on the first node;

wherein the second node executes client application software and network software, wherein said second node sending the response message comprises the network software executing on the second node sending the response message in response to a request received from the client application software executing on the second node;

wherein the network software executing on the second node enables the client application software executing on the second node to specify whether to grant permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address.

36. (Original) The system of claim 35,

wherein the client application software executing on the second node invokes an application programming interface (API) of the network software executing on the second node to send the response message;

wherein said client application software invoking the API of the network software includes the client application software passing one or more parameters specifying whether to grant permission to the first node to host an instance of the location-independent address.

37. (Original) The system of claim 35,

wherein the network software executing on the second node also enables the client application software executing on the second node to specify whether the second node is giving up its instance of the location-independent address.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-18 and 20-37 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art of the record explicitly teaches or fairly suggests all of the claimed limitation, especially the limitation of a first node sending a message addressed to a location-independent address

requesting to host an instance of the location-independent address from a second node wherein the location-independent address comprises a role. The prior art of record failed to teach the feature of role-based addressing to a second node hosting an instance of the location-independent address and seek for permission to host an instance of the location-independent address for the requester.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

7.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenny Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM Tue.-Fri. and every other Monday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Kenny S Lin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2152
August 8, 2008